(a) administering the sodium chloride formulation to the human's upper gastro-intestinal tract so as to introduce the sodium chloride formulation to the metabolism of the human, wherein the amount of the sodium chloride in the sodium chloride formulation administered is (i) sufficient to provide more sodium chloride than the human's average daily intake for sodium chloride, as determined after monitoring the human for about 1 month, (ii) less than a toxic amount measured by TCLo, the dosage for oral consumption that is the lowest dosage of sodium chloride that has produced toxic side effects in humans, and (iii) less than a toxic amount measured by LD50, the dosage of sodium chloride that is lethal for 50% of the human population;

A1 cont.

(b) periodically repeating (a), so as to administer a therapeutically effective amount of the sodium chloride formulation to the human's metabolism; and

(c) achieving alleviation of the HIV infection.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the sodium chloride formulation is free of having other medicaments incorporated therewith for treatment of HIV infection.

24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein steps (a) and (b) are accomplished at least once per day.

25. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the amount of the sodium chloride formulation administered is sufficient to provide at least about 250 mg per day more sodium chloride than the human's average daily intake for sodium chloride, as determined after monitoring the human for about 1 month.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the amount of the sodium chloride formulation administered and the average daily intake for sodium chloride provide at least 7500 mg/day of sodium chloride.

27. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the sodium chloride formulation is a mixture with a form of potassium in a weight ratio amount of Na:K up to about 1:1.

A1 Cont.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the mixture contains up to about 20% by weight of another ingredient selected from the group consisting of S, P, Zn, Mn, Fe, Cu, Cr, I, Mg, Co, Se, and combinations thereof.

29. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the sodium chloride formulation is free of having other mineral salts incorporated therewith except for trace amounts thereof.

30. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the sodium chloride formulation is in a form selected from the group consisting of a solid formulation of sodium chloride and a solution formulation of sodium chloride.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the solid formulation contains from about 55% to about 100% of sodium chloride.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the solid formulation contains from about 75% to about 100% by weight sodium chloride.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the solid formulation of sodium chloride is free of having a carrier incorporated therewith.

34. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the solid formulation of sodium chloride is selected from the group consisting of a tablet, a powder, and a combination thereof.

35. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein administration of the solid formulation of sodium chloride is administration selected from the group consisting of oral, sublingual, buccal, transdermal, and a combination thereof.

36. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the solution formulation of sodium chloride contains at least about 2% by weight sodium chloride.

37. (New) The method according to claim 30, wherein the solution formulation of sodium chloride is aqueous.

38. (New) The method according to claim 30, further including a flavoring in the solution formulation of sodium chloride to improve palatability.

39. (New) The method according to claim 38, wherein the flavoring is selected from the group consisting of sugar, coffee, beer, wine, whiskey, fruit juice, milk, soda, mint, and combinations thereof.

40. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein administration of the solution formulation of sodium chloride is administration selected from the group consisting of oral, gavage, and a combination thereof.

41. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the administration to the upper gastro-intestinal tract is by way of a portion of the upper gastro-intestinal tract selected from the group consisting of a mouth, an esophagus, a stomach, a duodenum, and a combination thereof.

42. (New) The method according to claim 22, further including a minor amount of another ingredient selected from the group consisting of potassium chloride, potassium carbonate, potassium protein complexes, potassium phosphate, sodium carbonate, sodium protein complexes, sodium phosphate, and combinations thereof, wherein the total minor amount of said other ingredients is less than about 45% by weight, based on the weight of the sodium chloride.

REMARKS

No new matter has been added by any of the amended language with regard to new claims 22-42 above.

More specifically, original independent claim 1 has been replaced by new independent claim 22. With regard to the amended language in new claim 22 as compared to original claim 1, support is in the specification as follows. Support for the language in sub-part (i) of clause (a) of new claim 22 comes from lines 3-6 of page 11 of the specification. Support for sub-parts (ii)